

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 07631 170841Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 CCO-00 PASO-00 /018 W
-----058060 170904Z /20

R 170720Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9189

UNCLAS ANKARA 7631

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SEDU, TECH, TU
SUBJECT: RESEARCH OBSERVATORIES PROGRAM

TO: JON PETERSON
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, ASC
KIRKLAND AFB
E. ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

REF: YOUR TELEGRAM OF SEPT. 30

1. EIGHT BATTERIES SHIPPED 5/11/77 ARRIVED 5/26/77
AT ESENBAGA AIRPORT UNDER AIRWAY BILL NO. 015-6470435.
HOWEVER, THEY HAVE BEEN STORED WITH TURKISH CUSTOMS
BUREAU EVER SINCE. TURKISH AIRLINES (THY) STILL AWAITS
\$557.96 IN FREIGHT CHARGES, PLUS STORAGE FEES SINCE MAY 26.

2. EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO CONTACT DR. ISKENDER
OKSUZ TODISCUSS THIS SHIPMENT WITH HIM. HE IS ON "ONE-
YEAR LEAVE OF ABSENCE" FROM MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
(METU) IN ORDER TO DO RESEARCH AT TURKISH ATOMIC ENERGY
ORGANIZATION, AND HAS CHANGED BOTH HIS HOME ADDRESS AND
TELEPHONE NUMBER. WE ARE CONTINUING EFFORT TO CONTACT HIM.

3. SECURITY SITUATION AT METU IS STILL UNSTABLE.
CLOSED SINCE FEB. 20, 1977, METU DOES NOT EVEN
HAVE A PRESIDENT. STUDENTS ARE HIGHLY POLITICIZED AND
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ANKARA 07631 170841Z

POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE CONTINUES. HOWEVER, MINISTER OF
INTERIOR, KORKUT OZAL, WHO IS WIDELY RESPECTED, WAS REPORTED
IN TURKISH PRESS OF OCT. 14 TO HAVE SAID HE BELIEVED METU
WOULD BE OPENED "SOME TIME IN NOVEMBER". HE CLAIMED
METU'S FIVE-MEMBER BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BE
CAPABLE OF ASSIGNING AN ACTING PRESIDENT WHO COULD ADMINISTER
THE UNIVERSITY. ACCORDING TO OZAL, ABOUT 2,000 STUDENTS

WERE REGISTERED AT METU ON OCT. 13 WITHOUT INCIDENT.

4. MINISTER OF INTERIOR'S STATEMENT ABOUT METU ADMINISTRATION WAS CALLED INTO QUESTION BY STATEMENTS OF EDUCATION MINISTER NAHIT MENTESE IN PRESS ON SAME DAY, HOWEVER. MENTESE SAID TWO DECREES APPOINTING A NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR METU HAD BEEN REJECTED BY GOT'S PRESIDENT. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD ASKED ALL CURRENT MEMBERS OF BOARD TO RESIGN, BUT ONLY SOME HAD COMPLIED. MENTESE HOPES THAT PRESIDENT WILL ALLOW COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO REPLACE ENTIRE BOARD.

5. COMMENT. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT INSTALLATION OF SEISMIC RESEARCH OBSERVATORY (SRO) STATION BE POSTPONED AT LEAST UNTIL METU OPENS FOR CLASSES. WHEN AND IF THIS OCCURS, EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE BETTER ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY SITUATION AND MORE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. IN THE MEANWHILE, EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE ITS ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT EITHER DR. OKSUZ OR HIS REPLACEMENT AT METU, DR. FUAT BAYRAK CEKEN IN ORDER TO DISCUSS BOTH SHIPMENT OF BATTERIES DESCRIBED IN PARA NO. 1 AND SRO INSTALLATION. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE USGS MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ON EITHER ONE OF THESE TWO MATTERS. IN PARTICULAR, COULD YOU ASK TWA WHETHER THY HAS REQUESTED PAYMENT FOR SHIPPING THE BATTERIES FOR WHICH TWA WAS PAID BY USGS ORIGINALLY, AS WE ASKED PREVIOUSLY IN ANKARA 4368 OF JUNE 7? IF RESPONSE ALREADY PROVIDED, PLEASE REPEAT AS IT MAY HAVE BEEN MISPLACED WHEN DENNY-BROWN REPLACED MAST IN JULY.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 07631 170841Z

AMERICAN EMBASSY
ANKARA, TURKEY
SPIERS

NOTE BY OCT: PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RESEARCH, SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA07631
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770380-0889
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771054/aaaabtyt.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c6e422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 899437
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESEARCH OBSERVATORIES PROGRAM TO: JON PETERSON US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, ASC
TAGS: SEDU, TECH, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c6e422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009